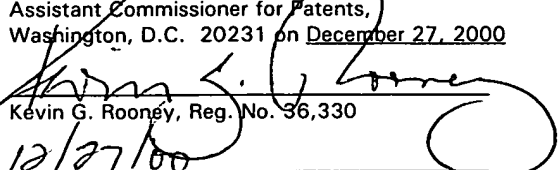


GP/3738

PATENT

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents,  
Washington, D.C. 20231 on December 27, 2000

  
Kevin G. Rooney, Reg. No. 36,330

12/27/00  
Date

#2

Applicants:	Mark Ortiz et al..
Serial No:	09/677,981
Filing Date:	October 3, 2000
Art Unit:	3738
Examiner:	Unknown
Title:	IMPLANTABLE HEART ASSIST DEVICES AND METHODS
Atty Docket:	SPEN-08

Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

December 27, 2000

RECEIVED  
JAN 10 2001  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of candor and good faith imposed by 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and means of complying therewith according to 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98, the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are called to the attention of the United States Patent and Trademark Office in

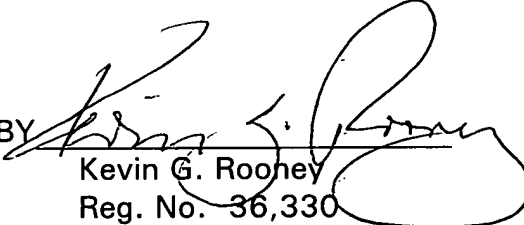
connection with the above-identified patent application. Copies of the cited references are enclosed herewith.

The Examiner is urged to consider all of the cited documents and to make an independent evaluation of the teachings and materiality of each.

Applicants do not believe that any fees are due in connection with this submission. However, if such petition is due or any fees are necessary, the Commissioner may consider this to be a request for such and charge any necessary fees to deposit account 23-3000.

Respectfully submitted,

WOOD, HERRON & EVANS, L.L.P.

BY   
Kevin G. Rooney  
Reg. No. 36,330

2700 Carew Tower  
Cincinnati, OH 45202  
(513) 241-2324

K:\SPEN\08\ids.wpd